

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to an apparatus and a method for reading an optical code. The apparatus comprises a casing with a reading window; the casing comprises an illumination means acting through the reading window on an optical code to be read, a detection means responsive to light scattered from the illuminated optical code into the casing through the reading window, and an objective lens interposed between the reading window and the detection means, in a position to pick up the light scattered from the illuminated optical code and project this light onto the detection means. The detection means comprises a plurality of light-sensitive elements effective to convert the light to electric signals representing the light image. The apparatus is characterized in that the illumination means comprises a first array of light sources active in a first illumination configuration, and at least a second array of light sources active in at least a second illumination configuration different from the first one.

20

(Fig. 1)

00330643-052799